

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 118035
ORIGIN A-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00
SY-05 USSS-00 OPR-02 CPR-01 OC-06 CCO-00 /046 R

DRAFTED BY A:JCLARK:PMH
APPROVED BY A:JMTHOMAS
WH -P. WISE (PHONE)
S/S - F. WISNER
ARA/PAN - MR. HAAHR (PHONE)
-----054182 092139Z /41
O 092113Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118035

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO PANAMA

REF: PANAMA 3089

1. PROPOSED SCHEDULE BEING REVIEWED IN LIGHT OF EMBASSY
COMMENTS IN REFTEL. FINAL DECISIONS ON PRESIDENT'S
SCHEDULE WILL BE MADE FOLLOWING PRE-ADVANCE. THE
PRE-ADVANCE TEAM WILL ARRIVE PANAMA LATE AFTERNOON MAY 17
AND WILL DEPART MORNING OF MAY 19.

2. PLEASE RESERVE ROOMS HOLIDAY INN (FORTY SINGLES) AND
ARRANGE FOR WAIVER VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR PRE-ADVANCE.

3. EMBASSY WILL BE PROVIDED BY SEPARATE TELEGRAM LIST
OF MEMBERS OF PRE-ADVANCE TEAM, PRE-ADVANCE AGENDA, AND
ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRE-ADVANCE, ADVANCE AND
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PAGE 02 STATE 118035

ACTUAL VISIT.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY RECOMMENDATIONS ON
ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PRESIDENT, OFFICIAL PARTY, AND
SUPPORT STAFF (ESTIMATE 350) AND FOR THE PRESS AND PRESS
STAFF (ESTIMATE 250).

5. PLEASE PROVIDE ESTIMATED TIME OF SUNSET FOR DATES OF ACTUAL VISIT.

6. IN PREPARATION FOR PRE-ADVANCE, PLEASE CONTINUE TO DEVELOP INFORMATION ON SITES INCLUDED IN PROPOSED SCHEDULE (AND POSSIBLE ALTERNATE SCHEDULES) INCLUDING SKETCHES AND PHOTOGRAPHS WHERE POSSIBLE. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO POUCH THESE AS LONG AS THEY ARE READY FOR ARRIVAL OF PRE-ADVANCE TEAM. SPECIFICALLY WE WOULD APPRECIATE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SANTIAGO DE VERAGUAS, LEGISLATIVE PALACE FACILITIES, AND ALBROOK AIR FORCE STATION.

7. FOR PLANNING PURPOSES POST SHOULD ASSUME THAT CONTADORA ISLAND VISIT WILL BE INCLUDED IN PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE. HOWEVER IN VIEW OF THE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES WITH RESPECT TO THIS RAISED IN REFTEL SUGGEST THAT POST CABLE ALTERNATE SCHEDULE IN PANAMA CITY, INCLUDING SITE FOR DINNER.

8. IN EVALUATING POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR CANAL VISIT NEED DESCRIPTION OF LAUNCH LAS CRUCES INCLUDING NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO CAN BE ACCOMMODATED, AND DESCRIPTION OF OTHER LAUNCH CAPABILITY THAT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PARTY WHO COULD NOT BE ACCOMMODATED ON LAS CRUCES AND FOR SUPPORT PERSONNEL, USSS, WHCA AND
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PAGE 03 STATE 118035

PRESS. WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL TO PRE-ADVANCE TO IDENTIFY AMERICANS WHO MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVE EMPLOYEES, AND SCENARIO FOR MEETING.

9. IN VIEW OF THE SIZE AND IMPORTANCE OF USG PRESENCE IN PANAMA, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF EMBASSY COULD IDENTIFY SMALL NUMBER KEY AMERICANS WHO SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN FUNCTIONS TO BE HELD IN CONNECTION WITH VISIT TO ASSURE THEY ARE REPRESENTATIVE.

10. POST SHOULD PREPARE DESCRIPTION OF MEDICAL FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR PRE-ADVANCE. LT. CMDR. DOROTHY HAMILTON, WHITE HOUSE MEDICAL OFFICE, WILL BE MEMBER OF PRE-ADVANCE PARTY AND WILL WANT TO SURVEY FACILITIES WHICH MIGHT BE USED IN EVENT OF MEDICAL EMERGENCY.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE118035
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JCLARK:PMH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780196-1172
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780577/aaaacnvu.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7206b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN A
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PANAMA 3089
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2745118
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO PANAMA
TAGS: OVIP, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: PANAMA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7206b1a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014